

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the office action mailed on May 16, 2006 in which claims 19-22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 42-47, 49-54, 57-59, 66-70, and 72-75 were rejected, and claims 60-65 were allowed. With this amendment, claims 19, 24, and 69 are amended, and claims 44-48, 51-55, 57-59, 61, 64, 66-68, 71, and 73-75 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present Application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

I. Rejection of Claim 67 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 2 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claim 67 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for reciting "the air stream travels in a circular loop." In response, Applicants have cancelled claim 67 and have also cancelled claims 61 and 64, each of which recited the same limitation. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is no longer applicable.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

On page 3 of the office action, the Examiner indicated that claims 60-65 are allowed and that claims 48, 55, and 71 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants have cancelled claims 61 and 64 in response to the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection above but have not made amendments to the other allowed claims, claims 60, 62-63, and 65. Further, Applicants have amended independent claim 19 to include the subject matter of allowable claim 48; have amended independent claim 24 to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 55; and have amended independent claim 69 to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 71. Applicants have cancelled claims 44-48, 51-55, and 71. In view of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully assert that independent claim 19 (and corresponding dependent claims 20-22, 42-43, and 49), independent claim 24 (and corresponding dependent claims 26, 28-29, and 50), and independent claim 69 (and corresponding dependent claims 70 and 72) are allowable.

Applicants have cancelled claims 57-59, 66-68, and 73-75 without prejudice to obtain timely issuance of a patent containing claims reciting subject matter that the Examiner has indicated is allowable. Applicants wish to make it unmistakably clear that Applicants do not

agree to or acquiesce in the rejection of the cancelled claims and/or agree with the Examiner's view of the view of the scope and content of the prior art.

III. Conclusion

Claims 19-22, 24, 26, 28-29, 42-43, 49-50, 60, 62-63, 65, 69-70, and 72 are pending in the present Application. Applicants believe that the present Application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

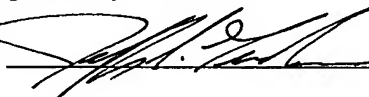
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner needs anything or if a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 26371
Telephone: (414) 297-5897
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Jeffrey S. Gundersen
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,719